

501.40830VX1 / 210000485US2

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Applicants: HIROI, et al.

Serial No.: 09/986,577

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: PATTERN INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS

Group: 2624

Examiner: J. Strega

Conf. No.: 5835

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 3, 2007

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the Decision dated July 3, 2006 of the Primary Examiner finally rejecting claims 29, 30, 41, 42 and 44.

The items checked below are appropriate:

☐ A timely response to the final rejection
was filed on -----.

☒ Fee \$500.00 ☒ is enclosed ☐ not required
(fee paid in prior appeal).

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.40830VX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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